

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
THE LEGAL ADVISER

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MEMORANDUM

May 6, 1970

TO: Mr. James A. Brammell - Director, Office of  
Basic and Geographic Intelligence, CIA

FROM: John R. Stevenson - Chairman, Law of the Sea  
Task Force

SUBJECT: CIA Participation in the Law of the Sea Task  
Force

An important function of the Law of the Sea (LOS) Task Force is to collect information on ocean affairs for long-term use by all U.S. Government agencies and for the more immediate purpose of preparing for a possible international conference on LOS subjects. This data bank, as envisaged, will contain a variety of facts about the oceans. Some facts will necessarily be classified, but none will be so sensitive as to preclude effective use by interested government agencies.

Within the organization of the Task Force, responsibility for developing a workable ocean data bank is delegated to an Information and Research Working Group. The Chairman of that Working Group, Charles J. Pitman of State, is authorized to request as needed the assistance of other members of the Task Force, which includes the CIA as an ad hoc member. He has, in fact, been working with representatives of Interior and Defense and with [REDACTED] of your office on initial planning of the data bank.

I would like now to request formally the cooperation of your Office in the formation of the data bank. Specifically, this cooperation will involve the continued assistance

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of [REDACTED] in collecting certain information available to OBGI. I understand that [REDACTED] will periodically inform you about the nature of his work with the Task Force.

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The three attached memoranda describe the format of the data bank and the organization of the Law of the Sea Task Force.

Attachments: As stated.

L/PMO: CJP:cm:cek